



Lamoine Board of Selectmen

606 Douglas Hwy
Lamoine, ME 04605
(207) 667-2242
town@lamoine-me.gov

Minutes of May 2, 2013

Chair Jo Cooper called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM

Present were: Selectmen Cynthia Donaldson, Bernie Johnson, Gary McFarland, Nathan Mason, S. Josephine Cooper; Administrative Assistant Stu Marckoon, Code Enforcement Officer Michael Jordan, Richard & Steve McMullen, and Catherine Gaianguest

Agenda Review – Stu noted there was no addendum for the meeting. No changes to the printed agenda were proposed.

Minutes – April 16, 2013 – Cynthia asked about a couple of passages. Stu noted that the minutes were in chronological order. Jo moved to approve the minutes as written. Gary 2nd. **Vote in favor was 5-0.**

April 18, 2013 – Jo moved to approve the minutes as written. Gary 2nd. **Vote in favor was 5-0.**

April 23, 2013 – Jo moved to approve the minutes as written. Gary 2nd. **Vote in favor was 5-0.**

Expenditure Warrant 21 – Selectmen signed the warrant in the amount of \$20,837.86. Stu noted the largest expenditure was for the shelving project.

Cash & Budget Report – Stu reported excise tax collections are now nearing the budget estimate.

Checking Account – Stu said he'd e-mailed the checking account reconciliation. Selectmen signed the statement expressing satisfaction with the review. Stu also reported that e-mail issues have plagued the office for the past couple of weeks and Brett Jones is working on it. He hopes it will be fixed soon.

Fire Truck Chassis Bid – Stu reported that a legal ad in the Ellsworth American stated that the specifications would be available on May 3, 2013. Jo moved to authorize the specifications as printed. Nathan 2nd. **Vote in favor was 5-0.**

Snow Plowing Bids – Selectmen opened the three bids submitted and read them as follows:

Bidder	Year	Town Roads	School
Barry's Trucking	2013/14	107,850	2,500
	2014/15	107,850	2,500
	2015/16	107,850	2,500
RF Jordan	2013/14	88,000	3,000
	2014/15	88,000	3,000

	2015/16	88,000	3,000
McMullen Landscape & Construction	2013/14	99,000	4,000
	2014/15	102,000	4,000
	2015/16	105,000	5,000

It was noted that RF Jordan is the low bidder. Gary noted that the town is currently involved in litigation with RF Jordan. Jo said Richard McMullen has done a phenomenal job. She said when the town started with him, she worried about his equipment and experience, and he has outshone any plow contractor in her memory. She said her prejudice is to stick with a local firm, and moved to award the contract to McMullen Landscape & Construction. Gary 2nd. **Vote in favor was 5-0.** Cynthia said she wanted to echo what Jo had said, and that when McMullen was awarded the bid 3-years ago, she had some anxiety. She said they have done a wonderful job and she appreciates the high standard they've brought to the job.

Mowing Offer – Jo read the offer letter from McMullen Landscaping to keep the same price for mowing the various town facilities. Gary moved to accept the offer, Nathan 2nd. **Vote in favor was 5-0.**

Appointment of Deputy Code Enforcement Officer – Code Enforcement Officer Michael Jordan said he envisioned that the job would be an on-call situation. He said he hopes to build a house this summer and would need a deputy CEO. He suggested Millard Billings. Cynthia asked if this would apply to the Habitat for Humanity project. Mr. Jordan said that was nearly done, and that Mr. Billings could inspect that if the Selectmen wished. Stu reported that Mr. Billings is retiring as the town manager in Tremont and has been a long-time Code Enforcement Officer and resides in Franklin. Bernie asked how frequently he would be needed. Mr. Jordan said it would not be very often. Jo moved to appoint Millard Billings as the Deputy CEO. Gary 2nd. Stu noted that he made the appointment paper to expire June 30, 2014, and the Selectmen agreed that would be appropriate. **Vote in favor was 5-0.** A brief discussion followed on the desire to have Mr. Billings give the final inspection to the Habitat for Humanity project.

Comprehensive Planning Committee – Stu reported that Joe Young agreed to have his name added to the list of potential committee candidates. Bernie asked how large the committee would be. Stu said the Selectmen agreed that 7 would be best. Cynthia asked Stu to recap what constituencies should be represented. Stu said the Budget Committee, land uses, education, administration and 3 at large members. Jo moved to appoint the following who offered to serve:

- Valerie Sprague
- Cathy Gaianguet
- Joseph Young Jr.
- Perry Fowler
- Merle Bragdon
- Amy Duym
- Fred Stocking

She suggested that Stu could be the staff support person for the committee. Gary 2nd the nominations. **Vote in favor was 5-0.** Selectmen asked Stu to write to the others

that offered to thank them for the offer and remind them that one of the goals for this committee would be to recommend a final committee.

Cathy Gaianguet reported she had been in contact with the State Planning Office. There was a brief discussion of when to have the first meeting. Stu said he would prefer to wait until at least June.

RSU 24 Withdrawal – Gary reported that the RSU 24 Withdrawal Committee has not met since the last Selectmen's meeting, but the town has received the official letter from the Department of Education with conditional approval. He said the RSU will hold a hearing on May 20, 2013 at the Lamoine School. He said the hearing would be run by the RSU Board and open to the public. He said it's the only chance to talk to the RSU Board regarding the agreement. He said there is not a lot of financial information available. He said copies of the conditional agreement would be available at the meeting and at the town hall. He said it's pretty dry reading and urged folks to read it. He said he was unsure how the RSU would handle questions, and urged people to attend the meeting.

Gary said the RSU Withdrawal Committee will meet on May 9th and discuss budget development then. He said it's impossible to get the budget down to the penny. He said the City of Ellsworth is having their finance department develop the budget. He said there was some discussion about having the budget committee involved. Stu reported that he spoke with a Selectman in Hancock who said they've engaged a consultant to develop their budget. Cynthia noted that one of the folks Stu spoke with paid \$11,000 to a consultant who concluded that a budget could not be accurately developed. Gary said to hire someone would be expensive, but that could be an option.

Ms. Gaianguet asked if the meeting would be recorded. Stu said if he could get a crew, it could be. Nathan noted that it seems odd to ask questions of the group from which the town proposes to withdraw. Gary said the meeting would be run by the RSU chair, Dick Gray. He said he's not sure what would happen. Nathan asked if the Selectmen need to have time to discuss how to procure a budget. Gary said he expected the Withdrawal Committee would come to the Selectmen after the meeting with a proposal next Thursday. He said the state does not require that any budget be developed as part of the withdrawal process. Cynthia asked what the time frame was and whether the vote would be in November. Gary said the Education Commission has not yet set a date, so there needs to be some quick action to develop a budget. A brief discussion followed on the procedure for appointing a budget committee. Jo said the board could put the word out – there did not need to be a lot of people. The issue will be on the agenda for May 16, 2013.

Ms. Gaianguet asked what the timeline is to move forward should withdrawal pass. Stu said it would be July 1, 2014. Ms. Gaianguet asked about the current RSU budget process. Stu said the budget meeting is set for May 26, 2013 at Sumner High School with a validation vote on June 11, 2013. Ms. Gaianguet asked if she could submit questions to the RSU. Gary said he was not sure about the format and there was a brief discussion about how to submit questions. Nathan asked about public comments and

who has the authority to rewrite the agreement. Gary said the Department of Education said that all questions must be considered and that might require a re-write.

Paving – Stu reported that paving consultant Roger Picard had opened the bids, and B&B paving had come in with the low price this year. He said he expected paving to take place in mid-May. He also noted that the MDI League of Towns met with the Maine DOT and the paving on the state highways would likely take place in mid-June.

Local Highway Work – Stu said he did not have a chance to develop a work plan yet, but hoped to get to that in the next week.

Gravel Ordinance Lawsuit – Stu reported that the town attorney and the Maine AG's office had both filed answers to the suit, and the town's response was in the Selectmen's materials on the table tonight.

Dumping Complaint – Stu reported that CEO Jordan dealt with a complaint about materials being dumped by RF Jordan at their Douglas Highway pit, but there was no violation.

Dog Compliant – Stu reported that ACO Arsenault dealt with a dog complaint and determined that it occurred in the Town of Hancock and was not in his jurisdiction, though the alleged dogs are owned by a Lamoine resident. He said ACO Arsenault offered assistance to Hancock's ACO if needed.

Next Meetings – The next regular meeting will be on May 16, 2013. There will be a special meeting at the Lamoine School on May 24, 2013 at 12:45 PM to talk with students about their thoughts about issues in town.

Executive Session – Jo moved to enter executive session pursuant to 1MRSA §405(6)(a) to conduct performance reviews for the Code Enforcement Officer and Administrative Assistant. Cynthia 2nd. **Vote in favor was 5-0 at 8:12 PM. Out at 8:57 PM.**

There being no further business to transact, the meeting adjourned at 8:57 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Stuart Marckoon, Adm. Asst. to the Selectmen.